

Frederick B. Carter, Jr. House
1024 Judson Street
Evanston
Cook County
Illinois

HABS No. ILL-1086

HABS
ILL,
16-EVAN,
2-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
Reduced Copies of Measured Drawings

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
801 - 19th Street N.W.
Washington, D.C.

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HABS No. ILL-1086

FREDERICK B. CARTER, JR. HOUSE

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ILL,

16-EVAN,

2-

Location: 1024 Judson Street, Evanston, Cook County, Illinois.

Present Owner: Albert W. Tibbits.

Present Occupant and Use: Family dwelling, presently (1965) unoccupied.

Statement of Significance: The Carter house was designed by Walter Burley Griffin in 1909-1910. At a time when he was apparently still under the influence of his former employer, Frank Lloyd Wright; this is suggested in his use of a cross-shaped plan with low flanking wings and broad gables, not unlike Wright's design for the Ward Willitts house of 1902.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Original and subsequent owners: Legal description of the property: Lots 17-18 in Block 2 of Re-subdivision of Blocks 1 and 2 in White's Addition to Evanston in the northeast quarter of Section 19-41-14.

The following information was obtained from the complete chain of title recorded in Book 598E, p. 66, in the Cook County Recorder's Office: On February 5, 1910, Laurie E. Edmonds et al turned the deed to the property over to the State Bank of Chicago Trust (Document 4507007); they in turn, sold it to Elsie J. Carter on May 11, 1914 (Document 5414956). Oscar H. Hangan received the title deed from Elsie Carter and husband on November 9, 1917 (Document 6233731); Robb T. Richardson received the warranty deed from the Carters on September 20, 1920 (Document 6956607). Hangan granted Elsie Carter a release on August 5, 1925 (Document 9005405). The property then appears to have come under the ownership of Lloyd R. Steere, who released it to the present owner Albert W. Tibbits on September 6, 1945 (Document 13595059).

2. Date of erection: 1910.
3. Architect: Walter Burley Griffin (1876-1937).
4. Original plan, construction, etc.: The original design, dated 1909, was to be carried out in Glencoe, Illinois. The project was subsequently altered to fit a narrower lot

in Evanston /H. Allen Brooks, Jr., The Prairie School, The American Spirit in Midwest Residential Architecture. (Evanston, Illinois, Unpublished doctoral dissertation for the Department of Art, Northwestern University, 1957), p. 34. The original drawings of the house including perspective, plans, and section, are in the collection of the Department of Art, Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois.

B. Bibliography:

Birrell, James. Walter Burley Griffin. Brisbane: University of Queensland Press, 1964. pp. 65-66; pl. p. 34.

Brooks, H. Allen, Jr. The Prairie School, The American Spirit in Midwest Residential Architecture. Evanston, Illinois: Unpublished doctoral dissertation for the Department of Art, Northwestern University, 1957. pp. 19-58, especially p. 34; pls. 9, 10.

Condit, Carl W. The Chicago School of Architecture. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1964. p. 210, fig. 176.

Original drawings for the F. B. Carter House, Evanston, Illinois, 35 x 21- $\frac{1}{2}$ " : perspective, plans, and section; architect's name blacked out. In the possession of the Department of Art, Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois.

Prepared by Larry J. Homolka
Historian and Assistant
Supervisor
National Park Service
September 1965

PART 11. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: A typical Prairie School house designed by Walter Burley Griffin, who formerly had worked in Frank Lloyd Wright's studio.
2. Condition of fabric: Fair. Structure is in need of maintenance and numerous items need repair.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Over-all dimensions: Cross-shaped, approximately 68'-6" by 40'-0", two stories.

2. Foundations: Concrete base course at grade with face brick above.
3. Wall construction, finish and color: Red face brick with concrete sills. Gabled second story projections are cream-colored stucco.
4. Structural system, framing: Wooden balloon frame with brick veneer.
5. Porches, stoops: A large porch on the south was originally open, but is now enclosed.
6. Chimney: A large central chimney serves fireplace and central heating unit.
7. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: The main entrance is at the north-east corner of the north wing; the service entrance is at the northwest corner of the north wing. Both doors have a large single glass panel. The west (rear) entrance has a door with a glass panel above two vertical recessed wooden panels. Swinging leaded-glass-panel doors open from the dining room to the porch. The door from the living room to the narrow porch leading to the main porch (on east side of dining room) has a single glass panel above and recessed wooden panels below.
 - b. Windows: There is a large fixed pane of glass on the east wall of the living room; the remainder of the windows in the house have casement sash. Windows on the second floor have a geometric pattern of wooden muntins.
8. Roof:
 - a. Shape, covering: Gabled roofs with flat projecting overhangs. The gabled roofs are covered with asphalt shingles. The flat projecting overhangs are built up roof with tar.
 - b. Cornice, eaves: Built up wooden cornice on a 95° angle; soffits are stucco.
 - c. Dormers, cupolas: There is a flat-roofed second floor sleeping porch over dining room on south wing of structure.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans:

- a. Basement: Game room, mechanical equipment room, laundry and storage rooms.
- b. First floor: Entry and stair hall in north wing, dining room and porch in south wing, living room on east, kitchen and servants room on west.
- c. Second floor: Bathroom on north opens onto a small sunning balcony; there is a bedroom on the northeast corner. The master bedroom on the southeast corner has a bath to the west; a sleeping porch which is located above the dining room opens south off the master bedroom. There are two bedrooms on the west.

2. Stairways: All stairs are located in the north wing of the cross. The grade entrance landing has a stair up to main level at both main and service entrances. A stair leads down to the basement between them. The stair from main level to second floor, with landing between, begins over the basement stair; the stair from landing to second floor is over the service entrance hall and stair. Treads and risers are oak.

3. Flooring: The two-inch oak strip flooring is covered with linoleum in kitchen and ceramic tile in bathroom. The basement floor is concrete. The enclosed porch is covered with asphalt tile.

4. Wall and ceiling finish: Cream-colored, pebble-finish plaster.

5. Doorways and doors: Doorways are dark stained oak with 5" trim of rectangular mouldings. Doors have stiles and rails around a single recessed panel of dark stained oak. Stiles are 5", top rail is 8", bottom rail is 15".

6. Decorative features and trim: Continuous head trim and sill trim is of dark stained oak. Built-in seats and book cases on each side of the fireplace project into the living room and form visual separation between the living room and dining room on the south and the living room and the stair hall on the north. Ceiling trim in living room and dining room is dark stained oak. The built-in buffet on the north wall of the dining room is of similar oak. A china closet made of glass with dark stained oak base and corner supports carries to the door/window head line on the south wall of the dining room, between dining room and porch.

7. Lighting: Electrical. There are specially designed brass wall fixtures of geometric shape on the first floor in living room, dining room and entry.
8. Heating: Central. Fireplace in living room is red roman brick with concrete lintel and base. The hearth is roman brick. Radiators on the first floor are concealed behind a plaster panel with wood trim, which is open at top and bottom.

D. Site:

1. General setting and orientation: The house faces east on Judson Street in an older, but well maintained, residential area of Evanston.
2. Outbuildings: A garage is located at the northwest (rear) corner of the site.
3. Landscaping, walks, enclosures: Two concrete lanes for vehicles run from the street to the garage at the north edge of the site. Concrete walks run from this drive lane into the main and service entrances on the north and the rear entrance on the west. There are numerous large trees on the site and heavy bushes on the south, southwest, and east front of the house.

Prepared by J. William Rudd
Supervisory Architect
National Park Service
August 1965